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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/711,541	11/13/2000	Masaharu Ito	YKM-00901	7142

26339 7590 11/20/2002

PATENT GROUP  
CHOATE, HALL & STEWART  
EXCHANGE PLACE, 53 STATE STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02109

EXAMINER

LEE, BENNY T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2817

DATE MAILED: 11/20/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

711591

Applicant(s)

Ito et al

Examiner

B. La

Group Art Unit

2817

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE Three (3) MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

## Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 Aug 2002
- ☒ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- ☐ Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
  - ☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

## Attachment(s)

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s) 5
- ☐ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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### **DETAILED ACTION**

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art (fig. 8) in view of the Japanese ('313) reference (cited by applicants').

The admitted prior art (fig. 8) discloses the claimed invention except for the ground conductors of the coplanar line being connected to an upper ground plane on the second substrate "at an edge of the second conductor".

The Japanese ('313) reference discloses an integrated circuit package using coplanar lines. Moreover, note that the upper (i.e. second) substrate (3) of the package comprises an upper ground plane (4). Furthermore, note that the coplanar ground lines (5b) are electrically connected by via connections (10c) to the upper ground plane at locations which are spaced along the edge of the upper (i.e. second) substrate (3).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious in view of the references, taken as a whole, to have modified the package of admitted prior art (fig. 8) to have included via connections connecting the coplanar ground planes to the upper ground plane on the second substrate along the edge of the second dielectric substrate. Such a modification would have been obvious in view of the explicit teaching thereof by the Japanese ('313) reference. Note that such a modification would have been consistent with analogous via connections already provided in the admitted prior art, but would have provided the advantageous benefit of forming such via connections in a much

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easier manner (i.e. via connections can be easier formed along an edge of the substrate as compared to the interior body of the substrate), thereby suggesting the obviousness of the modification.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

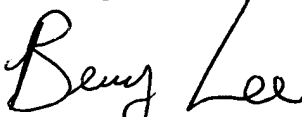
Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benny Lee whose telephone number is (703) 308 4902.

B. Lee

November 15, 2002

  
BENNY T. LEE  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
ART UNIT 2817